

NOMINATION FOR AWARD		
AWARD Gen Thomas D. White Natural Resources Conservation Award	CATEGORY (If Applicable) Large Base	AWARD PERIOD 1 Oct 99-30 Sep 02
RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last) 45th Space Wing, Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Flight	SSN	MAJCOM, FOA, OR DRU AFSPC
DAFSC/DUTY TITLE N/A	NOMINEE'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) DSN: 854-7288/Comm: 321-494-7288	
UNIT/OFFICE SYMBOL/STREET ADDRESS/BASE/STATE/ZIP CODE 45CES/CEV, 1224 Jupiter Street, Patrick AFB, FL 32925-3343		
RANK/NAME OF UNIT COMMANDER (First, Middle Initial, Last)/COMMANDER'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial) Lt Col Christopher M Hazen/DSN: 854-4041/Comm: 321-494-4041		
SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format)		
<p><b>DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING CURRENT NATURAL RESOURCE PLANS - <i>Energetic!</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expertly conducted sea turtle monitoring/protection program; over 15,000 nests and 1.5M hatchlings!</li> <li>- Superbly executed a substantial revision to US Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion for sea turtle disorientation based on successful implementation of light management plan for 45 SW facilities</li> <li>- Tirelessly enforced light management plans via nighttime inspections during sea turtle nesting season</li> <li>- First-ever blanket permit received! Expertly developed comprehensive gopher tortoise relocation plan               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Eliminated 15 hours per project for completion of permit application and prevented mission impacts</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Conceived and implemented compensation plan requiring leasees to fund scrub jay habitat restoration</li> <li>- Championed controlled burn plan to improve and enhance habitat of the threatened Florida scrub jay               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Executed 11 controlled burns encompassing approximately 800 acres of sensitive scrub jay habitat</li> <li>-- Partnered with NASA-KSC to develop controlled burn notification plan to reduce mission impacts</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Innovative methodology developed by partnering with state to record data for the annual deer census</li> <li>- <i>Leader! Revised Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan prior to the 2001 Sikes Act deadline</i></li> </ul> <p><b>PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES IN INSTALLATION DECISIONMAKING - <i>Dedicated!</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Streamlined EIAP process by partnering with other government agencies, personnel and contractors               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Diligently reviewed more than 2,600 AF Form 332s; prepared over 200 AF Form 813s within 5-10 days, resulting in negligible impacts to construction projects, new programs, launch schedules</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Revamped technical specifications for tower repairs including clauses for migratory bird protection</li> <li>- Expert oversight for construction of two Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle launch pads guaranteed light policy compliance, scrub jay habitat compensation, and 56 successful gopher tortoise relocations</li> <li>- Proactively assured natural resource protection by diligently reviewing/approving of more than 50 site plans and over 400 dig permits--final approval ensures all environmental requirements incorporated</li> <li>- Ingeniously created a detailed environmental matrix showing all environmental concerns associated with active/inactive launch complexes to help wing select ideal sites for new space launch customers</li> <li>- Analyzed impacts of over 30 launches--entered data into GIS database for cumulative effects analysis               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Results of data incorporated in environmental analysis documents for future space launch activities</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>IMPROVING LANDSCAPING AND GROUNDS MANAGEMENT - <i>Restoring native habitat!</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proactively partnered with grounds contractor to reduce mowing of more than four acres, resulting in a savings of about \$4,500/yr--helped to improve scrub jay habitat used for foraging/caching acorns</li> <li>- Aggressively conducted six beach cleanup activities--endangered sea turtle nesting areas are preserved               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- More than 150 tons of trash was collected with four tons recycled--over 660 volunteers participated</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Superbly incorporated exotic vegetation removal/treatment requirements in land clearing/cutting jobs</li> <li>- Masterfully avoided adverse impacts to wetlands by prohibiting use of herbicides in nearby uplands</li> <li>- Innovatively installed more than 100 bat houses--effective mosquito control without using pesticides!</li> <li>- Skillfully completed updated digitized Cape Canaveral Air Force Station vegetation map--now in GIS               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Replaced a 10-year-old map used for critical habitat management and natural resources planning</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>DEVELOPING URBAN FORESTRY AND URBAN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Stalwart!</i> Achieved Tree City status for 10th consecutive year--active in Arbor Foundation since 1992</li> <li>- Formulated initiative with USFWS setting scrub mitigation ratio--4 acres enhanced to each 1 acre lost               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Developed cost reimbursement guidelines so commercial launch programs can contribute funds for offsite mitigations--saved limited resources for future AF operations/programs/construction projects</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Partnered with the USFWS to develop a programmatic agreement for rodent control while protecting federally listed southeastern beach mice found inside facilities while allowing for effective pest control</li> <li>- <i>Quality-of-life</i> enhanced through the planting of over 220 trees in family housing &amp; campground areas</li> <li>- Diligently pursued golf course qualification in Audubon International Cooperation Sanctuary Program</li> <li>- Spearheaded required use of native species in landscaping activities through review of design projects               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Using native species prevents spread of exotic vegetation and reduces amount of watering required</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



**NOMINATION FOR AWARD (Continued)**

RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last)

45th Space Wing, Civil Engineer Squadron, Environmental Flight

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format) (Continued)

**DEVELOPING POTENTIAL AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY ACTIVITIES - *New habitat made!***

- *Success!* Masterfully incorporated herbicidal treatment in scrub habitat restoration program activities
  - More than 300 acres of habitat treated to remove exotic vegetation that crowded out native species
  - *Protection!* Improved white-tailed deer foraging habitat by cutting & burning overgrown vegetation
- Choreographed an incredible ecologically balanced fuel load reduction plan minimizing catastrophic wildfires near critical space launch complexes, tracking facilities and fuel storage areas at the Cape

**CONSERVING WILDLIFE - *Ensuring wildlife of today can reproduce successfully for the future!***

- Innovatively monitored juvenile green sea turtle population using various unique telemetry techniques
- Diligently continued seven-year demographic study evaluating nesting success of Florida Scrub Jay
  - *Unique!* CCAFS has 1 of only 3 remaining core populations left in Florida--340 birds/111 families
  - Projects involving land clearing in scrub jay habitat are restricted to occur outside nesting season
- Expertly relocated 270 gopher tortoises from restoration/landfill sites and pipeline installation areas
  - *Going the extra mile!* 19 blood samples from tortoises used to determine upper respiratory diseases
  - Funded a radio telemetry study to determine the impacts that relocation has on individual tortoises
- Flawlessly relocated 25 great horned owl eggs from launch towers--one returned and released on site
- Lauded by command with Outstanding Performance Award recognition during 2000 external ECAMP
- *Insightful!* Installed 33 osprey nesting platforms, reducing nesting on critical launch towers/facilities
- Sponsored university research for beach mouse demographics, sea turtle DNA, indigo snake telemetry
- Proactively responded to over 100 incidents regarding sick and injured native wildlife--rehabilitated!
- Ingeniously used dune vegetation providing natural light barrier to prevent sea turtle disorientation
- *Mission impacts avoided!* Aggressively pursued and received programmatic agreement with USFWS for the federally protected southeastern beach mouse preventing continuous individual consultations
- Implemented intense predator removal program to protect endangered sea turtle hatchlings and eggs
  - Over 400 raccoons and over 275 non-native feral hogs were removed from sea turtle nesting areas
- Spearheaded white-tailed deer census plan to define management requirements/track population trends

**PROTECTING WETLANDS/ OTHER SPECIAL NATURAL AREAS - *Commitment is job one!***

- Piloted partnering effort with regulatory agencies reconnecting 15-acre impoundment to Banana River
- Uniquely established a vegetative barrier system using native trees to reduce ammonia in groundwater
- Promoted critical dune protection through the construction of crossovers at several beach access points
  - *Protection!* Installed fencing along crossover, preventing establishment of unauthorized pathways
  - Incorporated native vegetation plants to reestablish fragile dune ecosystem/protected species habitat
- *Recognition!* Diligently pursued/received designation of base marina in state Clean Marina Program

**ENCOURAGING OUTDOOR RECREATION - *Resourceful in balancing recreation and nature!***

- Aesthetically improved beach recreational areas through construction of dune crossovers--easy access
- Honored by Keep Brevard Beautiful for outstanding participation in local area conservation initiatives
- Widened/stabilized security police exercise/running course giving users a safer, more enjoyable trail
- Aesthetically improved beach recreational areas through the construction of four new dune crossovers
  - Demolished deteriorated crossovers damaged by hurricanes at launch complex 34/Camera Road 'B'
  - Replaced with attractive, structurally sound crossovers--area fenced so visitors will not walk on the dunes; native vegetation planted to prevent dune erosion; plants block light, preventing sea turtle disorientation and establishes critical habitat for the federally protected Southeastern beach mouse

**PROMOTING CONSERVATION EDUCATION - *Wide spread education on a wide range of topics!***

- Proactively created posters/brochures/signs/presentations promoting scrub habitat restoration activities
  - *Answering the call!* Prepared brochure to answer questions about controlled burns for scrub jays
- Pioneered light management policy minimizing sea turtle disorientation--improved hatchling success
  - Developed a Space Wing instruction that educates personnel on the correct use of exterior lighting
  - Resourcefully issued reminders to facility managers prior to nesting season of proper lighting use
- Spearheaded six educational sea turtle walks for wing senior leadership and beach cleanup volunteers
- Professionally presented scientific papers at two international sea turtle meetings discussing GIS use
- Enthusiastically provided educational tours for personnel--encouraged conservation program support
- Created 4 wildlife education posters informing personnel of protected species commonly encountered
- Hand-picked to judge three career and science fair--promoting conservation education in local schools
- Expertly participated in six spill exercises--provided guidance on potential impacts to local flora/fauna
- Eagerly conducted 35 news media interviews promoting balance between wildlife protection/mission
- Incredible media day resulted in 20 news reporters covering five different natural resource initiatives!